



TOTUS TUUS

ARCHDIOCESE *of* MILWAUKEE

2024 Missionary Guide

Getting Started

We are so happy that you are interested in serving with us as a Totus Tuus missionary this summer! Many of the details of what missionary life is like can be found in the sections below. As you read through this guide, please do not hesitate to contact



Meg Aspinwall, Associate Director of Evangelization & Catechesis, at 414-758-2223 or aspinwallm@archmil.org if you have any questions. We will help you in any way we can!

What is Totus Tuus?

Totus Tuus is a Catholic summer youth program dedicated to sharing the Gospel and promoting the Catholic faith through evangelization, catechesis, Christian witness, Marian devotion, and Eucharistic worship. Through our week-long “parish mission” for 1st-12th grade youth, Totus Tuus assists parents and parishes in the evangelization and catechesis of their youth.

The methodology, structure, content, and enthusiasm of Totus Tuus is concerned not only with teaching the faith, but also igniting the hearts of the team members and young people. The result has been the formation of youth and young adults who continue to dedicate themselves to the Church’s mission of evangelization.

The mission of Totus Tuus is to inspire in young people a true longing for holiness, a deep desire for daily conversion, and an openness to their vocation by constantly challenging them to give themselves entirely to Christ through Mary and by continually strengthening their prayer lives in imitation of Her.

Our Inspiration

Totus Tuus, a Latin phrase meaning “totally yours,” was the motto of Saint John Paul II. Taken from St. Louis de Montfort’s *True Devotion to Mary*, it signifies our desire to give ourselves entirely to Jesus Christ through Mary. It also expresses our effort to give our all to every young person we encounter. Through the teams’ example of joy and service, the youth see that these men and women are ON FIRE with the Catholic faith and long for the same thing in their lives.

The Team

Each Totus Tuus team consists of two men and two women. Missionaries are selected based on their commitment to the Catholic faith, desire to teach the Faith, love of children, energy, enthusiasm, and leadership abilities. In order to operate a week of Totus Tuus successfully, missionaries adhere to a well-defined schedule which has a structured prayer life as its foundation.

Housing and Transportation

During the week, the team will stay at host family houses to better know the parish families. The host families often treat missionaries as part of their own family. Housing of missionaries occurs from their arrival Saturday afternoon/evening until their departure the following Saturday. Transportation expenses will be reimbursed by the Archdiocese.

Meals

All the team's meals will be provided while the team is in the parish. Breakfast takes place in host homes, lunch at the parish, and dinner in a parish family's home. Missionaries are typically responsible for their own meals on Friday evenings through Saturday afternoon.

Training

Before sending missionaries to parishes, they receive a robust, holistic training over the course of two weeks. Each missionary is trained to impart the curriculum of all aspects of the parish program, and is formed in prayer, teambuilding, testimony, evangelization, and the mission of Totus Tuus. Practical skills in relationships, lesson planning, and more is included. All training occurs in an environment of prayer – both communal and personal – the Sacraments, recreation, and fellowship. Missionaries train with the Diocese of Madison in Madison during the late Spring.

On the Road

Upon completion of training, your team will travel to parishes throughout the Archdiocese of Milwaukee. As part of Totus Tuus, you will have the opportunity to teach many youth ranging from first to twelfth grade. You will also assist in leading songs, prayers, meditations, announcements at Mass to raise awareness and attendance, and a number of other duties that may arise. The duties of the Totus Tuus team do not end in the classroom. While on the road, a Totus Tuus team is not only evangelizing to the children and young adults they teach, but also to whomever God brings into their path.

Compensation

In 2024, Totus Tuus Missionaries will receive \$305/week for 9 weeks, which includes two weeks of training, for a total of \$2,745.

Curriculum & Methodology of Totus Tuus

The Five Marks of Totus Tuus

1. Proclamation of the Gospel: to arouse faith
2. Explanation: examination of the reasons for our beliefs
3. Christian Witness: an experience of Christian living
4. Celebration of the Sacraments: especially Holy Eucharist and Confession
5. Active Witness: participating in the missionary spirit of the Catholic Church

The Five Pillars of Totus Tuus

1. The Eucharist
2. Marian Devotion
3. Catechetical Instruction
4. Vocational Discernment
5. Fun

The Eucharist has pride of place in the Totus Tuus schedule, for both team members and participants. Prayer – the Liturgy of the Hours, the Rosary, the Angelus, the Chaplet of Divine Mercy and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament – provides the structure, but the celebration of the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass is the “source and summit” of the daily schedule.

Totus Tuus missionaries will lead the young people to Jesus for a week; however, Mary will lead them to Jesus for a lifetime. Therefore, Totus Tuus promotes **Marian Devotion**. Meditating on the mysteries of the Rosary, we come to see how Mary always leads us to her Son. Praying with her and to her, we hear her say to us, “Do whatever He tells you” (John 2:5).



An authentic **catechesis**, rooted in an orderly and systematic explanation of God’s revelation of Himself through the person of Jesus Christ, provides the foundation of the program’s teaching. Totus Tuus instructs young people in the basic tenets of the Catholic faith to cultivate a firm intellectual grounding and a solid relationship with Jesus. All our teaching aims to help young people grow in understanding, strengthen their faith, and most importantly, develop an intimate friendship with Jesus Christ.

Totus Tuus strives to foster **Christian vocations** by encouraging young people to begin discerning God’s call in their life to be married, a priest, a religious, or a consecrated single. Team members sign a covenant in which they promise to be open to and actively discern God’s will for them. Because they are striving to live an authentic Christian life and are actively discerning their vocation, they can better help the youth do the same.

Finally, Totus Tuus demonstrates that one can be a faithful Catholic and still have **fun**. Morning “pump up,” silly skits and songs, recess, and water fights in the parishes, infuse the element of fun in the program.

The Faith & the Rosary

The Sacred Scriptures and the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* provide the foundation of the catechetical instruction of the Totus Tuus summer catechetical program. Consequently, Totus Tuus has divided the four pillars of the *Catechism* into a six-year teaching cycle. To complement this six-year cycle, Totus Tuus also follows a four-year cycle dedicated to the mysteries of the Rosary.

Year One: The Mystery of Salvation

Year Two: The Apostles’ Creed (2024)

Year Three: The Sacraments

Year Four: The Commandments

Year Five: The Virtues

Year Six: Prayer and the Our Father

The Joyful Mysteries

The Luminous Mysteries

The Sorrowful Mysteries

The Glorious Mysteries (2024)



*Schedule***

The team arrives at a parish Saturday evening. The team will be speaking at all the Masses that weekend. The team will meet with a parish representative, tour the facilities, set up, and prepare for the coming week on Sunday afternoon. After putting on the summer program, the team will have some free time Friday evening and Saturday morning for team recreation and personal time. Missionaries are due to arrive at their next parish before the anticipatory Mass on Saturday evening.

Totus Tuus Milwaukee also provides a **family program component**, which gives participants' parents and other adults of the parish the opportunity to experience the mission of Totus Tuus in a tangible way. This new evening event will include time for fellowship and shared dinner, age-specific talks and testimonies, and prayer.

The following is the usual schedule during the week. Some parishes adjust for a different Mass time (9am, Noon). The Grade School program runs Monday-Friday, and the Middle/High School program runs Sunday-Thursday.

TEAM

7:00am	Breakfast in host homes
8:00am	Arrive at Parish; Morning Prayer, Rosary, set-up

GRADE SCHOOL PROGRAM (1st-6th grade)

9:00-9:20am	Opening Prayer, Songs, & Skits
9:20-10:00am	Class Period #1
10:00-10:15am	Restroom or Snack Break
10:15-10:45am	Class Period #2
10:45-11:05am	Music Preparation for Mass
11:05-11:25am	Mass Preparation/Individual Classes to Confession
11:30am	Mass
12:15-1:00pm	Lunch & Recess
1:00-1:15pm	Cool Down & Water Break
1:15-1:50pm	Class Period #3
1:50-2:10pm	Restroom or Snack Break
2:10-2:40pm	Class Period #4
2:40-3:00pm	Gather, Review, & Closing Prayer
3:00pm	Dismissal

**Based on program needs, the schedule for each program may vary slightly from this guide. The schedules here are meant to give you a general sense of what a day looks like on Totus Tuus.

TEAM

3:15pm	Clean-up, Set-up, Team Meeting
3:30pm	Evening Prayer and Chaplet of Divine Mercy
4:00pm	Team Recreation
5:30pm	Dinner with Parish Family

MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAM (7th-12th grade)

6:30pm	Team Arrives to Prepare
7:00-7:25pm	Ice Breaker, Games
7:25-7:30pm	Welcome, Opening Prayer
7:30-8:00pm	Talk on Specific Topic
8:00-8:45pm	Small Groups (usually split by age)
8:45-9:00pm	Night Prayer
9:00pm	Dismissal

SUMMER CALENDAR

May 27-June 8	Team Training (Madison/Milwaukee) – estimated dates
June 9-14	Parish Week 1
June 16-21	Parish Week 2
June 23-28	Parish Week 3
July 1-5	Midsummer Break
July 7-12	Parish Week 4
July 14-19	Parish Week 5
July 21-26	Parish Week 6
July 28-Aug 2	Parish Week 7
Aug 2-4	End of Summer Wrap-Up

Missionary Qualifications & Application

Serving as a Totus Tuus missionary is an awesome opportunity and privilege with great responsibilities. Our missionaries are chosen from among the most faithful, energetic, and zealous Catholic college-aged students and seminarians from around the nation. To be considered for a position on our staff the applicant must have the following qualifications and desires:

Missionary Qualifications

Each Totus Tuus missionary must be a high school graduate, as well as a confirmed, practicing Catholic (practicing Catholics attend Mass weekly, go to confession regularly, and obey the moral teachings of the Catholic Church). In addition, missionaries need to have:

- A basic knowledge of the Catholic faith
- A desire to work with youth
- The ability to lift at least 30lbs. and the ability to keep up with the rigorous demands of the program

In addition, missionaries must be willing and able to:

- Learn and experience the faith
- Be present for all training, parish weeks, team activities, and retreats
- Live in community, work on a team, and receive constructive feedback
- Keep to the Totus Tuus daily prayer regiment and actively discern their vocation
- Teach and interact with children, teens, parish staff, and parents
- Sign and adhere to the Totus Tuus conduct policy and covenant
- Comply with Archdiocesan Safe Environment policies and requirements
- Make any other sacrifice that arises in the course of the summer

Application Process

If you would like to apply to be a Totus Tuus Missionary, please fill out our online application (a link can be found at www.archmil.org/totustuus). Applications will be available in January, with interviews for applicants beginning in February 2024.